

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TOKYO 12937 240917Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----030056 241049Z /21
R 240842Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 456

S E C R E T TOKYO 12937

EXDIS

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: MARR, ESTC, JA, US, UR
SUBJECT: FORESTALLING ACQUISITION OF SOVIET DEEP SEA SEARCH
CAPABILITY

REF: TOKYO 12289

1. LDCR ERIC OSER OF ONI BRIEFED US ON STATUS OF
DSS-125 MODIFICATION PROJECT. MULTIPLE CHANGES HAVE
BEEN MADE TO THE EQUIPMENT RENDERING IT INOPPERABLE
BELOW 3,000 FEET. NEC WILL MEET WITH SOVIETS PROBABLY
AUGUST 25 AND SAY THAT HYDRO PRODUCTS, IN ANTICIPATION
OF EQUIPMENT'S BEING PLACED ON MONITIONS LIST HAD
SHIPPED ONLY AVAILABLE MODEL POST HASE. NEC WILL THEN
EXPLAIN THAT ALTHOUGH MODEL IN JAPAN NOT IDENTICAL TO
THAT DESCRIBED IN PUBLICITY BROCHURE, IT IS FULLY
CAPABLE OF PERFORMING TASKS REQUIRED IN LAYING OKHOTSK
SEA CABLE. FURTHERMORE, NEC WILL SAY, HYDRO PRODUCTS
HAS BEEN DIRECTED BY USG TO RECOVER EQUIPMENT SHIPPED
TO JAPAN BUT HAS PLEADED THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE SINCE IT
IS NOW IN POSSESSION OF NEC.

2. ACCORDING TO OSER, NEC EXPECTS SOVIETS TO BE
SECRET

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 12937 240917Z

ANNOYED BUT WILL PROBABLY ACCEPT A SUBSTITUTE. QUESTION
OF WHO PAYS FOR ANY FINANCIAL DAMAGES REMAINS TO BE
WORKED OUT AMONG NEC, HYDRO PRODUCTS AND U.S. NAVY.
OSER ALSO SAID THAT NEC HAS COOPERATED FULLY IN
CLANDESTINE ALTERING OF OSS-125.

3. COMMENT. U.S. SECURITY OBJECTIVES HAVE NOW

APPARENTLY BEEN MET. WE WOULD HOPE THAT
WASHINGTON AGENCIES WILL WORK OUT A WAY TO ASSURE THAT
NEC, WHOSE COOPERATION WAS OBVIOUSLY ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS
OF MODIFYING DSS-125, WILL NOT SUFFER UNDUE FINANCIAL
LOSS.
MANSFIELD

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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